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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

14 July 2021

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Los Angeles – Justice Department Launches Strike Force, Targets Firearms from Other States

(U) The White House announced that the US Department of Justice launched a gun trafficking strike force in Los Angeles to prevent guns coming across state lines from areas with weaker gun laws. The funding for the strike forces — which will also be in New York, Chicago, Washington DC, the Bay Area — comes from the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan. The strike forces will work to combat gun violence by targeting firearms that enter from other states with less restrictive gun laws. SOURCE: 13 July 2021, ABC7

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) California – Agents Seize Meth Estimated at \$271k

(U) Salton City – El Centro Sector Border Patrol agents arrested a US citizen attempting to smuggle methamphetamine through an immigration checkpoint. The 62-year-old man was smuggling approximately 98.67 pounds of methamphetamine with an estimated value of \$271,342. The incident occurred when a vehicle approached the Highway 86 immigration checkpoint. During inspection, a Border Patrol K-9 detection team alerted to the trunk of the vehicle and discovered two cardboard boxes along with a blue plastic container containing several vacuum-sealed bags of a white crystal-like substance.

SOURCE: 13 July 2021, <u>CBP</u>

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Arizona – Authorities Respond to 'Security Incident' at Tucson International Airport

(U) Tucson – Authorities responded to an incident at Tucson International Airport. An airport spokesman could only confirm "there was a security incident requiring further checks on an incoming aircraft." The spokesman said the aircraft was cleared, passengers were allowed to get off and additional details would have to come from the FBI. A woman claiming to be a passenger on the plane said the pilot told them Federal agents had received a tip about a suspicious device in some luggage on the plane. The passenger also said a woman was taken off the flight.

SOURCE: 13 July 2021, KOLD News3

(U) Kentucky – Police Say Truck Driver 'Intentionally' Rammed Louisville Metro Corrections Facility

(U) Louisville – The Louisville Metro Police Department said the driver, who intentionally rammed Louisville Metro Corrections and has not yet been publicly identified, acted alone. The truck hit the front of the jail building at the intersection of Sixth and Liberty streets. According to Maj. Shannon Lauder, commander of the Louisville Metro Police Department's First Division, an off-duty officer leaving the courthouse saw a driver of a pickup truck "who appeared to intentionally ram" the jail. She added that several streets were briefly blocked off in the area "out of an abundance of caution," though police did not believe anyone was in danger.

SOURCE: 13 July 2021, WDRB

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(U) New Hampshire - Firm Allegedly Shipped WMD Tech to Russian Intel Agency, Feds Say

(U) Concord – The FBI and federal prosecutors are investigating a New Hampshire company for allegedly supplying lab equipment to Russia's weapons of mass destruction programs. Warrants unsealed in federal court allege that officials at Intertech Corporation, "intentionally falsified shipping documents, avoided and circumvented export compliance regulations, and obfuscated end-users" as they sent scientific instruments to recipients in Russia. Moscow's domestic intelligence and security agency, the Federal Security Service, was reportedly among the recipients of Intertech's shipments.

SOURCE: 13 July 2021, The Daily Beast

(U) New York - Kidnapping Conspiracy Charges Against Iranian Intelligence Officer and Network

(U) Manhattan – The United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced the unsealing of a kidnapping conspiracy, sanctions violations conspiracy, bank and wire fraud conspiracy, and money laundering conspiracy charges against Alireza Shavaroghi Farahani, an Iranian intelligence official, Mahmoud Khazein, Kiya Sadeghi, and Omid Noori, and sanctions violations conspiracy, bank and wire fraud conspiracy, money laundering conspiracy, and structuring charges against Niloufar Bahadorifar. Since at least June 2020, Farahani, and the intelligence network he manages, have plotted to kidnap a US citizen of Iranian origin from within the United States in furtherance of the Government of Iran's efforts to silence criticisms of the regime. The US citizen is a journalist, author, and human rights activist, who has publicized the Government of Iran's human rights abuses.

SOURCE: 13 July 2021, US DOJ

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Afghanistan – Taliban Fighters Execute 22 Afghan Commandos

(U) Dawlat Abad – The Taliban shot 22 Afghan commandos yesterday in the northern province of Faryab, the Afghan Ministry of Defense confirmed. The Special Force members' ammunition ran out as they fought with terrorist militants, leading them to surrender. The Taliban told them to take off their bulletproof vests amid the surrender and then shot the 22 troops, including the son of a top Afghan general, the Ministry of Defense said.

SOURCE: 13 July 2021, Fox News

(U) Pakistan – Shootout Leaves Two Soldiers, Three Militants Dead

(U) Peshawar – Security forces raided a militant hideout in northwest Pakistan, triggering an intense shootout that killed two soldiers and three militants, the military said. According to a military statement, security forces launched a search operation following the shootout in the district of Kurram in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, which borders Afghanistan. It provided no further details, and the identity and nationality of the slain militants were not immediately known. Kurram, a former stronghold of the Pakistani Taliban, is located near the Afghan border.

SOURCE: 13 July 2021, The Washington Post

- (U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.
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